

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 7-20 have been withdrawn from consideration, and claims 1, 4 and 6 are amended with this response. Reconsideration of the application in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-6 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended to address the issues highlighted in the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-2 AND 6 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,627,930 (Fox et al.). Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to an integrated circuit, and comprises an array of ferroelectric memory cells, wherein each cell has a capacitor stack having a ferroelectric core with a crystallization in the (001) family. At least one of the capacitor stacks comprises a conductive contact formed thereover or thereunder, or both. The conductive contact has a cross section near a contact portion with the top portion of the stack, the bottom portion of the stack, or both, that is about as large or larger than that of the ferroelectric cores. Fox et al. do not teach such a conductive contact, and therefore the cited art does not anticipate the claimed invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 3-5 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fox et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,313,797 (Van Buskirk et al., claim 3), U.S. Patent No. 6,831,313 (Uchiyama et al., claim 4), and U.S. Patent No. 6,507,060 (Ren et al.,

claim 5). Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

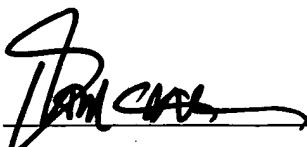
As highlighted above, the primary reference, Fox et al., does not teach the invention of independent claim 1, and the secondary references do not remedy the deficiencies in the primary reference. Therefore claims 3-5 are non-obvious over the cited art, and withdrawal of the rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 20-0668, TI-36398.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: May 15, 2005


Christine Gillroy